

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated amino acid sequence comprising a diabetogenic epitope defined by EEQLRELRRQ (SEQ ID NO:1).
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) The isolated amino acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the diabetogenic epitope comprises part of a larger peptide or protein that does not occur naturally in nature.
4. (Currently amended) The isolated amino acid sequence of claim 1, wherein said amino acid sequence is attached to a carrier protein, non-carrier protein, macromolecule or support.
5. (Currently amended) The isolated amino acid sequence of claim 4, wherein said amino acid sequence is attached to a support, said support comprising a bead, plate, dish, cover slip, slide, multiwell assay plate, or bio-assay chip.
- 6–20. (Canceled)
21. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising one or more of the amino acid sequences according to claim 1.
- 22–23. (Canceled)
24. (Withdrawn) The kit of claim 21, further comprising one or more beads, plates, dishes, coverslips, slides, multi-well assay plates, bioassay chips, which may be attached or unattached to the diabetogenic epitope, protein or peptide comprising the diabetogenic epitope, nucleotide sequence encoding the diabetogenic epitope, sequence complementary thereto, or fragment

thereof.

25. (Withdrawn) The kit of claim 21, further comprising one or more primary antibodies capable of binding to the diabetogenic epitope, or protein comprising the diabetogenic epitope, one or more secondary antibodies that are capable of binding to the primary antibody, solutions, reagents, enzymes, or a combination thereof.

26–35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) The isolated amino acid sequence of claim 1, said amino acid sequence comprising ~~comprises~~ SEQ ID NO: 4.